No time schedule can be indicated until a final decision is taken in the matter.

Chasing of Terrorists in Delhi by Police

1142. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
DR. RATNAKAR PENDEY:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the press, it is a fact that a police party in a jeep which attempted to intercept a car carrying suspected terrorists near Kamal Cinema, New Delhi, failed to chase the terrorists because they were equipped only with hand guns and not with sophisticated weapons and had to give up the chase when they ran out of ammunition; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to arm the police with sophisticated weapons matching those used by the terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): A Police Party in a jeep tried to intercept the car carrying suspected terrorists near Kamal Cinema but missed them in the lanes of Safdarjang Enclave. The Police party was equipped with a stengun but did not get an opportunity to fire at the vehicle.

(b) All the mobile police parties attached with the Police Control Room are equipped with stenguns.

SAARC Decision Tackling the Menace of Terrorism

1143. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 7-Nation SAARC Conference held at New Delhi achieved a break-through in tackling the menace of terrorism by agreeing on a comprehensive law;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement; and

(c) the action being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The SAARC Council of Ministers held in New Delhi in June 1987, had before it the report of a SAARC Group of Experts which succeeded in identifying a list of offences which are terroristic in nature and which for the purpose of extradition cannot be regarded as political. The Ministers endorsed the list so indentified and accepted the recommendations of the Group of Experts for taking action in pursuance thereof.

(c) A Group of legal experts of SAARC member countries is to meet in Colombo to prepare a draft Convention on Terrorism for consideration at the Ninth Session of the Standing Committee.

Safety of Indians living in Jaffna in Sri Lanka

1144. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sri Lankan Government had assured India that the life and property of the Indians in Sri Lanka would be protected during their operations against Ceylon Tamils in Jaffna;